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SECURITY INFORMATION

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Briefing Notes for Use of Colonel F. R. Merath with Director, Central Intelligence Regarding Paper:

"Study Paper on Psychological-Electromagnetic Warfare"

1. Subject paper was prepared by Mr. F. H. Trimmer, IEO/F, State Department for the Administration IIA and staff members of the Department.

2. As the Director may recall, he forwarded a memorandum to the Secretary, National Security Council, on 25 January 1951 on the subject of "Potential Soviet Attack on Our Essential Communications Systems and Organizations." Subsequently, this problem was passed to Mr. Haraden Pratt, Telecommunications Adviser to the President on 8 January 1952.

3. Mr. Pratt on 25 February 1952 acknowledged responsibility for coordinating the development of telecommunications plans and programs designed to assure maximum security in time of national emergency. Subsequently, the Telecommunications Planning Committee and Panel #3 (concerned with this problem of electromagnetic warfare) has been established. [] AD/SI, is chairman of this Panel.

4. The subject paper was prepared in State Department and as a result of discussion with [] the Psychological Strategy Board is now in the hands of Admiral Kirk, who suggested it might be desirable to discuss the paper at the Psychological Strategy Board meeting on Thursday, 30 October 1952.

5. This paper deals with the problem of the relationship between psychological and electromagnetic warfare and the need for a mechanism to deal with matters arising from this relationship. Such a mechanism would incorporate policy making and administrative functions.

6. The study reveals that through various techniques, the U.S.S.R. is presently waging electromagnetic warfare against non-orbit countries which in turn has impact on psychological warfare planning and programs.

7. A discussion of the real purpose of the Soviet jamming effort discounts the thinking that the end purpose is denial of information on the West to orbit peoples but stresses:

a. That jamming is part of a huge electromagnetic counter-measures program.

b. That jamming is part of a long-range program to gain control of portions of the radio spectrum and through this to deny use or impose conditions of use on others.

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8. An analysis is made of possible Soviet reaction to a U.S. offensive countermeasures program. It is pointed out that historically there has been violent opposition in the U.S. to such action and even today the Department of Defense fears that such a program will bring on other retaliatory measures. However, the close link between psychological warfare and electromagnetic warfare requires a study of the problem by a body that cuts across organizational lines, not being limited to communications personnel, with a view to establishing over-all U.S. policy and planning.

9. It is stated that to some extent the Telecommunications Planning Committee meets this need but no psychological planning or operation organization has representation on the Telecommunications Planning Committee. It is suggested that the Telecommunications Adviser to the President be contacted to determine if he considers the Telecommunications Planning Committee adequate to handle this problem.

10. This matter has been discussed by with Mr. Pratt.

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